

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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R 092048Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6673

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: POAS MX

SUBJECT: ORFILA CONSULTS WITH GOM ON OAS REFORMS

1. OAS SEC GEN ALEJANDRO ORFILA CAME TO MEXICO ON AUG. 5 AND MET WITH PRES LUIS ECHEVERRIA AND PRES-ELECT JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO TO DISCUSS NEEDED CHANGES IN OAS. HE ALSO MET WITH PRESS AND LUNCHEDED WITH FONSEC OFFICIALS.

2. PRESS REACTION ON VISIT WAS MOSTLY FAVORABLE EMPHASIZING, OF COURSE, ORFILA'S PRAISE FOR ECHEVERRIA'S INTEREST AND SUGGESTIONS FOR REFORM OF OAS. ORFILA, IN ADDITION, POINTED OUT TO PRESS THE U.S. IS ALSO ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PROPOSED REFORM OFFERING MANY SUGGESTIONS, SOME ACCEPTED, SOME NOT. ORFILA ALSO EXPLAINED THAT CURRENT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS OF OAS ARE ONLY TRANSITORY - NOT RESULT OF U.S. POLITICAL PRESSURE ON OAS, BUT OF TECHNICALITIES OF CHANGE IN USG FISCAL YEAR. HE STRONGLY DENIED THAT OAS ONLY SERVED U.S. INTERESTS.

3. TO DATE, WE HAVE LEARNED NOTHING OF WHAT TRANSPIRED IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WHICH ORFILA HELD WITH ECHEVERRIA AND LOPEZ PORTILLO. AS INVITATION FOR VISIT WAS EVIDENTLY ECHEVERRIA'S, HOWEVER, WE ASSUME HIS AIM WAS TO LECTURE SEC GEN OF SOME ASPECT OF OAS REFORM -- OR PERHAPS TO DELIVER VIEWS ON RENEWED OAS PEACEKEEPING INVOLVEMENT IN HONDURAS-SALVADOR DISPUTE. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT AND USOAS COMMENTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, VISITS, MEETINGS, REORGANIZATIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO10176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760306-0960
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760872/aaaackvj.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ORFILA CONSULTS WITH GOM ON OAS REFORMS
TAGS: PORG, OVIP, MX, OAS, (ORFILA, ALEJANDRO), (ECHEVERRIA, LUIS), (LOPEZ PORTILLO, JOSE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006